

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NEA-14

ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /136 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6568

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T ROME 11628

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, GR, TU, US, CY, NATO

SUBJECT: GOI ACTIVITIES ON CYPRUS CRISIS

REF: ROME 11553 (NOTAL)

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED EVENING AUGUST 23 AND "UNOFFICIAL" GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON CYPRUS CRISIS (BEING REPORTED IN DETAIL SEPARATELY). IN ADDITION, IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT POLITICAL DIRECTOR DUCCI WILL VISIT ATHENS AND ANKARA EARLY NEXT WEEK ON AN OFFICIAL MISSION ON BEHALF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER. SINCE THIS ACTION IS AT VARIANCE WITH INFORMATION REPORTED PARA 3, REFTEL, DCM TALKED WITH DUCCI MORNING OF AUGUST 24.

2. DUCCI SAID THAT MORO HAD CHANGED HIS EARLIER VIEW BECAUSE OF WIDESPREAD PRESS ATTENTION TO SOCIALIST ARGUMENTS THAT ITALY
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SHOULD NOT PROVIDE ADDITIONAL NATO SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE REPLACE-

MENT FOR ACTIVITIES PREVIOUSLY BASED IN GREECE. IT BECAME APPARENT, SAID DUCCI, THAT THIS IDEA HAD TO BE CONFRONTED FIRMLY BY THE GOVERNMENT. MORO DECIDED THAT RATHER THAN DEAL WITH IT WITHIN A NARROW FRAMEWORK OF MILITARY FACILITIES, THE GOVERNMENT POSITION SHOULD BE PUT IN BROADER FRAMEWORK OF THE TOTAL CRISIS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS RATHER SPECIAL TYPE OF GOVERNMENT STATEMENT WAS TO INFORM THE PARLIAMENT AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES, AS WELL AS THE PUBLIC. IN IT MORO IMPLIES THAT THERE WILL BE A PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE OVER THE CYPRUS CRISIS WITHOUT REALLY COMMITTING HIMSELF TO IT. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, THE PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT WAS (A) TO ANSWER CRITICISMS OF GOI IMMOBILITY IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND (B) TO PUT THE NATO SITUATION INTO THE PROPOER PERSPECTIVE. WITH REGARD TO THE PREVIOUS LACK OF PUBLIC ACTIVITY BY THE GOI, DUCCI REMARKED THAT EARLIER THE UK HAD ASKED EC MEMBERS NOT TO TAKE INITIATIVES WHILE THE UK IS TRYING TO HOLD TOGETHER THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS. ALSO, DUCCI SAID, THE GOI HAD NOT WISHED TO TAKE STEPS WHICH MIGHT HAVE CREATED COMPLICATIONS FOR ANY US INITIATIVES. DUCCI IS MOST ANXIOUS THAT THE USG UNDERSTAND THAT HIS CURRENT MISSION IS DESIGNED TO AVOID CREATING COMPLICATIONS FOR THE UK, US OR FOR UNSYG WALDHEIM.

3. DUCCI SAID HE IS TRAVELLING TO LEARN WHAT HE CAN ABOUT THE SITUATION AND TO SPEAK FIRMLY IN BOTH ATHENS AND ANKARA TO POINT OUT THAT THERE IS A LIMIT TO BLUFFING BEYOND WHICH THE SITUATION CAN GET OUT OF HAND. DUCCI NOTED THAT WHILE THE GREEKS SEEMED PREPARED TO ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR A LARGE CONFERENCE, CLERIDES HAD EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT THE CYPRIOTS COULD RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS IF THERE WAS NO OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, DUCCI NOTED THAT DENKTASH IS CONTROLLED BY THE TURKS BUT REALLY IS UNABLE TO ADMINISTER THE LARGE TURKISH ZONE ON CYPRUS. DUCCI IMPLIED THAT PERHAPS DENKTASH WOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE UP SOME OF THE UNWIELDY AREA.

4. DUCCI PLANS TO LEAVE ROME AUGUST 25 FOR ATHENS. HE WILL SPEND MOST OF MONDAY IN ATHENS, TRAVEL TO ANKARA THAT EVENING, AND SPEND TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, IN ANKARA, RETURNING TO ROME THE MORNING OF AUGUST 28. HE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT PLAN TO VISIT CYPRUS. VOLPE

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